

A CURIOUS LETTER,

F I R O M

Oliver Puzzle-Cause.

S I R,

WILLIAM having received a letter from Sarah, written by Charles, shewed the same to Roger, who on perusal, said, he wondered that Richard should be so indiscreet as to quarrel with James about Abigail, who was so extreme ugly, and consequently shocking, because that Edward had refused though asked to go to the play with Catharine.

Whereupon Phillip, falling in a passion with Titus, swore he would be revenged on Patrick and therefore called Thomas: rogue, rascal, &c. Stephen, who was an eye-witness to the abuse, and being Christopher's friend, slyly tripped up Rowland's heels, and broke Jeremiah's head. Cuthburt on this drew his dagger at Edward, and Archibald, trembling, with much ado, recovered his fright, reassumed his natural intrepidity, and in a cold sweat snatched Gilbert's pistol from Lawrence and cocked his blunderbuss at Paul.

Whereat John being amazed, after some consideration, secretly advised Samuel to apply to Leonard, with the help of George, privately to make an affidavit against Arthur, to take out a writ against Henry and Rachael, at the suit of Timothy, executor of the last will and testament of Jacob, but Peter objected that, wisely alledging that Robert being sick, had sent word to David, who was lately married to Hannah, to desire Jeffery, who had been taken in bed with Mark's wife, to send his grandson Ralph to his cousin Bridget, earnestly to intreat his nephew Joshua, to go along with his brother Frank to make up the matter amicably with his aunt Susan. But she refused to go with Jack.

Yet, nevertheless, recommended Frederick and Humphry to Andrew, Simon and Luke: who after a long and grave consultation, ordered the music to play briskly, and then went unanimously to Bartholomew.

So that having drank plentifully at Ned's, till they were all intoxicated, having nothing to pay the shot with, they drew their swords at Dick the landlord, stabbed Robin, fell upon Lancelot, lamed Isaac, and had it not been for Solomon, had slain Cornelious.

Thereupon Nat rushed forward, and swearing at Marmaduke, who had been asleep all the time in Sally's lap, so incensed Walter and Martin, that Miles and Zachariah, without any regard to Mathew, threw bottles, glasses, &c. at one another's heads. At which Abraham, who was Moll's bully, being enraged, took Benjamin civilly by the throat, kicked Theophilus gently down stairs, picked Abel's pocket while he was making his addresses to Nell: and at the same time in the highest fury imaginable, smiling; calmly sent Barnaby, Toby, and Giles to the round-house.

At which Anthony, half drunk, soberly started up, and having first reeled two or three times about the room, put on an important wise look, made a fine speech, nothing to the purpose, and then asked what was the matter? Whereupon Bryan, in a low voice, loudly whispered Aaron, and perceiving that Alexander was strangled, astonished at their silent noise, told Francis that his great grandfather Joseph was dead, at which unexpected news Nicholas awaked; and being in an ill humour, writ a soft love song, whistled an opera air, and then withdrew to a neighbouring ale-house to drink a dish of chocolate with Dudley. Which exasperated Job in such a surprizing manner, that done of the company wondered at it; only indeed Valentine, in the height of his resentment could not forbear going to hang himself.

However Allen ran undesignedly to the goal, in order to let out the aforesaid prisoners and having, without any noise broke open the doors, freed Gerrard, Margery, and Betty, who being apprehended at King's, by the timely assistance of Barnard, were carried next morning before Hugh Noble, Esq. a trading justice in St. Giles's, and upon paying one shilling a piece, the whole affair was happily determined; which is the most exact account that can be given hereof, by

Your humble Servant,

Oliver Puzzle-Cause.

FROM SUCH EXAMPLES AS OF THIS AND THAT,
WE ALL ARE TAUGHT TO KNOW,—I KNOW NOT WHAT.